

## Message Text

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71

ACTION SCS-03

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 NEA-10 ISO-00 L-03 JUSE-00 SNM-02 SY-10

TRSE-00 H-03 SCA-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00

PA-04 RSC-01 USIA-15 PRS-01 SPC-03 SAM-01 DRC-01 /094 W

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R 201010Z FEB 74

FM AMCONSUL MUNICH

TO AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 4865

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMEMBASSY ANKARA

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TEHRAN FOR P&W OFFICER & DEA; DEPT FOR SCS;

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CPRS: PROTECTIVE SERVICES

SUBJECT: PROTECTIVE SERVICES: QUESTIONABLE PRACTICES INVOLVING

AMERICAN CITIZENS TO DRIVE AUTOMOBILES FROM MUNICH,

GERMANY TO TEHERAN, IRAN

1. DURING PAST 3 WEEKS, CONSULAR OFFICERS REPORT AT LEAST  
10 YOUNG AMERICAN CITIZENS PLUS ONE CANADIAN AND ONE  
AUSTRALIAN CITIZEN APPEARED PERSONALLY AT AMCONGEN REQUESTING  
INFO AND ADVICE ON LEGALITY DRIVING AUTOMOBILES  
FROM MUNICH, GERMANY TO TEHERAN, IRAN.

2. ABOVE PERSONS PRIMARILY YOUNG COLLEGE STUDENTS, LOW IN  
FUNDS, BETWEEN AGES 18-25, CURRENTLY TOURISTS IN EUROPE.

3. USUAL PROCEDURE IS TO PLACE FORMAL LEGAL OWNERSHIP AND  
INSURANCE DOCUMENTS OF VEHICLE IN NAME OF AMERICAN CITIZEN  
IN MUNICH BY IRANIAN NATIONALS ORGANIZING VEHICLE

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TRANSFER TO IRAN. APPROPRIATE VISAS OBTAINED FOR AMERICANS

BY THESE PERSONS WITH 1-2 DAYS. A WRITTEN CONTRACT IS SIGNED BY AMERICAN DRIVER AND VEHICLE TRANSFER ORGANIZER WHO IS ACTUALLY VEHICLE OWNER. A COPY OF CONTRACT WHICH AMCONGEN HAS ON HAND IS QUOTED TEXTUALLY IN PART AS FOLLOWS: QUOTE THE DRIVER ADMITS THAT THE SAID VEHICLE BELONGS TO THE ABOVE OWNER EVEN IF FOR THE EASINESS OF TRANSIT FORMALITIES, THE OWNERSHIP HAS TO BE TRANSFERRED TO THE DRIVER FOR THE PERIOD OF TRANSID (SIC) ACTIONS. THIS MEANS THAT THE ABOVE VEHILLE (SIC) HAS BEEN IS BELONG (SIC) TO THE "OWNER" AND THE DRIVER SHOULD DELIVER THE SAID VEHICLE TO THE "OWNER" UPON HIS REQUEST. THE DRIVER HAS THE RIGHT TO DRIVE THE SAID VEHICLE FREE OF CHARGE FROM MUNICH TO TEHERAN. THE OWNER ACCEPTS TO PAY THE "DRIVER" 350 DM GERMAN-MARKS PLUS GASOLIN (SIC) CONSUMPTION OF THE SAID VEHICLE FROM MUNICH TO TEHERAN OTHER EXPENSES LIKE HOTEL, FOOD, AND SO ON ARE TO BE PAID BY "OWNER" (UNQUOTE). COPY OF FULL CONTRACT FORM AIRPOUCHED ON TODAYS'S DATE TO AMEMBASSY TEHERAN FOR ITS INFO.

4. TOGETHER WITH 4 OR 5 DRIVERS IN SEPARATE VEHICLES, AMERICAN DRIVERS PROCEED IN CONVOY TO TEHERAN WHERE THEY DROP OFF VEHICLES. UNTIL REACHING TEHERAN THEY AT ALL TIMES ACCOMPANIED BY ONE OR TWO REPRESENTATIVES USUALLY IRANIAN NATIONALS WHO APPARENTLY WORK FOR PERSONS ARRANGING AND RESPONSIBLE THIS VEHICLE TRANSFER. AS MENTIONED IN CONTRACT FORM, DRIVERS GIVEN 350 GERMAN MARKS (EQUIVALENT US\$130.00) DRIVE VEHICLES TO TEHERAN MOSTLY LATE MODEL MERCEDES BENZ SEDANS WITH 150 GERMAN MARKS PROVIDED TO AMERICANS WHEN PROPOSITION ACCEPTED IN MUNICH AND BALANCE 200 GERMAN MARKS UPON SUCCESSFUL DELIVERY OF VEHICLE IN TEHERAN. EXPENSES FOR DRIVER'S ROOM AND BOARD WHILE ON 5-6 DAY'S TRIP ARE PAID BY THOSE ORGANIZING VEHICLE TRANSFER. ONCE DELIVERY MADE IN TEHERAN, DRIVERS EXPECTED TO DEPART PROMPTLY FROM CITY. FOR AMERICAN CITIZENS WITHOUT DRIVERS' LICENSES BUT WILLING ACCEPT PROPOSITION, THEY ARE SUPPLIED CHAUFFEUR TO DRIVE VEHICLE. AMERICANS MUST ACCEPT LEGAL VEHICLE REGISTRATION IN THEIR OWN NAME AND PHYSICALLY SIT IN CAR WITH CHAUFFEUR WHILE DRIVING TO TEHERAN.

5. FROM PRELIMINARY INFO AVAILABLE FROM GERMAN POLICE AUTHORITIES IN MUNICH ABOVE PROCEDURES DO NOT SEEM CONTRAVENE GERMAN VEHICLE REGISTRATION PROCEDURES FOR TOURISTS.  
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6. MOST AMERICANS APPEARING OUR OFFICE STATED THEY WERE FIRST APPROACHED AND RECRUITMENT ATTEMPTED IN MUNICH AT STUDENT HOSTELS, OR ON STREETS NEAR MAIN RAILROAD STATION, IN HOFBRAEUHAUS BEER HALL, AND SMALL MODERATEDLY PRICED HOTELS. THEY WERE APPROACHED BY A MAN NAMED "AHMIN" DESCRIBED AS A WHITE MALE, ALLEGEDLY ISRAELI NATIONAL, ABOUT 35 YEARS OF AGE, DRIVES 1971 OR 1972 WHITE BMW AUTOMOBILE. "AHMIN" IS INTERMEDIARY FOR PROSPECTIVE

CAR DRIVERS. HE ASKS THESE YOUNG AMERICANS "IF THEY WANT A JOB" AND IF REAPONSE AFFIRMATIVE, WILL PERSONALLY ACCOMPANY THESE RECRUITS TO MEET A MR. F. HAMEDANI, WHO APPARENTLY PRINCIPAL ORGANIZER THIS VEHICLE TRANSFER OPERATION. HAMEDANI IS OWNER SMALL RADIO AND TELEVISION STORE LOCATED IN MUNICH AT PAPPENHEIMERSTRASSE 15; STORE TELEPHONE NOS. 554408/552378; PRIVATE TELEPHONE NO. 355542. HAMEDANI'S BUSINESS CARD INDICATES HE IS IN "IMPORT-EXPORT SALES OF ELECTRICAL APPLIANCES AND TEXTILES ON WHOLESALE AND RETAIL LEVEL". HAMEDANI DESCRIBED AS IRANIAN NATIONAL, 5FT 9 INCHES, 40-45 YEARS OF AGE; WEIGHT 165-170 LBS, DARK SKINNED AND SPEAKS FAIR GERMAN.

7. ANOTHER PERSON IN MUNICH INVOLVED IN SIMILAR TYPE VEHICLE TRANSFER OPERATION TO TEHERAN IS REPORTEDLY A MR. GOBALAK, WHO WORKS OUT OF A TRAILER OFFICE AT KARLSTRASSE 110, MUNICH. HE TOO RECRUITS PRIMARILY YOUNG AMERICAN, CANADIAN, AUSTRALIAN AND SCANDINAVIAN STUDENTS AND TOURIST FOR DRIVING CARS TO TEHERAN.

8. POST CAN FORSEE POSSIBLE DIFFICULTIES FOR AMERICAN CITIZENS ACCEPTING PARTICIPATE THIS VEHICLE TRANSFER OPERATION. THIS MIGHT INCL  
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